

The Washington Times

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING
(Including Sunday)
By The Washington Times Company,
1111 M STREET, N.W., WASHINGTON, D.C.
FRANK A. MUNSEY, President
R. H. TITHERTON, Secretary
G. E. POPE, Treasurer

One Year (Including Sunday) \$2.00
Six Months, \$1.25
Three Months, \$0.75

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1916

THE SAME SUBMARINE MURDER

What the American people want to know, now that we are being officially advised that German submarines are going to blow up, without notice, any armed merchantmen of any belligerent country, is what all our Lusitania hullabaloo was for.

Did it take us nine months of arguing that it was murder to slaughter a defenseless non-combatant in a passenger vessel without giving him a chance to get off before the ship was destroyed—did it take us nine months of such arguing, we ask, to discover that this murder of a neutral wasn't murder if a merchant vessel carried a small gun, as all merchant vessels in all history have had a right to do and for doing which nobody before has ever dreamed of calling them warships?

Did it take us nine months of arguing against murder only to decide, at the very moment when Berlin was ready to agree with us that murder couldn't be anything but murder—did it take us nine months of arguing to decide that maybe murder wasn't murder?

Is it possible for the foreign policy of the United States Government, under its present inspiration and direction, to run in any direction whatsoever without jumping the track before it reaches its destination?

Is it possible for any Administration program to last through the day without being changed into exactly the opposite of what it was in the morning?

Is it possible for the Chief Magistrate of the Nation to stand to any plan he makes or any issue he draws long enough to get acquainted with it himself?

THE CONSUMERS'S SIDE

Though a large part of his testimony may have had little to do with the fitness of Louis D. Brandeis to serve upon the United States Supreme Court, Clifford Thorne, Iowa railroad commissioner, talked from a long and thorough study of railroad rate problems, and some portions of his remarks would bear careful study by anyone interested in the matter.

Most striking, because the idea has not yet taken hold to any extent, is his prediction that the consumer will gradually play a larger and ever increasing part in the proceedings of the Interstate Commerce Commission as well as in State and municipal public utilities commissions. In most of the hearings before the I. C. C. the consumer has been overlooked. The railroads have been represented, the shippers have been represented, and after it was all over the consumer has paid the bills.

It has been fallaciously assumed that the interest of the consumer was synonymous with that of the shipper. Mr. Thorne showed how futile such an assumption is. In many of the cases the shippers have not fought vigorously against an aggregate increase in rates, so long as the increase was evenly distributed.

When such a distribution was arrived at the consumer was left to pay the bills. Inefficiency of many public utilities commissions in obtaining relief for the consumer has arisen from ignoring his interest in the matter. In much of the consideration given street car line problems, for example, the interest of the investor has been pitted against the interest of the municipality as the whole. But seldom is anyone on hand to represent the group that put their nickels into the company's tills day by day.

Whenever an economist drives home this fact he is serving the interests of the public to a marked degree, simply because he is educating the public that it is high time it began looking out for its own interests.

TO LIVE LONG, GO TO WAR!

From France and England have come repeatedly the story of the magnificent physical conditions of the men in the trenches. Living out of doors, required under the most insistent discipline to keep themselves in the best of condition, looked after with the best medical and hygienic attention, fed better than many of them ever were fed before in their lives, clothed with all care for the supremely important business of maintaining the highest efficiency—under these conditions the men in the trenches are described as marvels of physical quality.

The love of the out of doors has been instilled into hundreds of thousands who never before had a chance to know what it meant. Fresh air has been prescribed and compelled. Thousands of men have

sent word home from the front that it's "never again" for indoor occupations; they are going to find fresh air occupations, somehow or other, if they return alive to their own country. They have seen all the shop existence they want, all the office work they propose ever to endure; they are demanding the right to live in the air and under the sky; they expect their countries to find ways to give them a chance at the soil, and their countries are trying to perfect arrangements to accommodate them.

Amid the horrors of war's slaughter, it is strange to learn that present-day sanitation has so utterly reversed camp and field conditions that men in war can enjoy better health than ever before. Comparison of this condition with those under which men died in our Spanish war or in Britain's Boer war must enforce realization that marvelous progress has been achieved by sanitary science.

GREAT ISSUE UP TO AMERICA

The orders of the German admiralty that armed merchant ships shall be sunk without warning after March 1, puts squarely up to America, as the most important neutral power, the necessity to decide, once for all, on which side it will array itself. Not on which side as between the belligerent nations, but on which side of the great question of free freedom of the seas.

Never before in modern time, never since the doctrine was established that the high seas, three miles from land belong to the world in common, has the question of freedom of the seas been so sharply drawn in question as right now. Germany proposes that the high seas shall be regarded as the domain of the belligerents; of whatever belligerent can take possession of them and, by the employment of the submarine, make them useless for any purpose of peace.

It has immemorially been the privilege of merchant ships to carry such arms as they needed to protect themselves against attack. That goes back to the days of the older and more respectable piracy of what we once were wont to call the "dark ages." Warfare then, especially at sea, was largely an affair of simple marauding, of indiscriminate destruction and murder; in fact, it was the same sort of thing that it has once more been made under the leadership of von Tirpitz, except that nowadays it possesses vastly more efficient weapons with which to spread its terrors on and under the seas.

That Germany should now issue orders that merchantmen carrying arms are to be destroyed instantly is not especially surprising. That was quite to be expected, considering the attitude of Germany toward the rights of the seas. But that Germany should distort the attitude of the United States into justification for such a decree, is humiliating beyond measure.

If the Washington Government has been misled into taking a position that justifies this one of Berlin, then Washington has indulged an egregious mistake. If Washington is being played with, if it is being made a spectacle and a derision before the world, then it is time for Washington to protest with more vigor than mere diplomatic notes can convey.

It is a crisis of such proportions as may not yet be fully realized even by responsible public men. The whole future of world-rights on the great world-highways is involved. Shall the oceans be closed against peaceful commerce, shall nations pursuing the ways of peace be barred from the use of the great waters, shall the whole world of business, of exchange, of trade and traffic, be blockaded—for that is what the German order amounts to—in order that belligerents may develop barbarism to its last extreme?

This is the question that the United States has to answer, in behalf of the whole sane and sober and peaceful population of the world. It must be answered, not for today and tomorrow and the period of this war, but for all time. Great Britain and her allies announce that they will not assent to the Berlin rule; and if Berlin is able to quote the American Government as sustaining such a view, it amounts to lining up this country on the side of complete surrender of the world's seas to the warring forces that at any time may assume to run amuck on them. It is a reversal to a worse piracy than ever existed before, because its effects are so much more serious. The seas are more important to the economic life of the world than ever before. They ought to be held more and more exempt from interference by warring powers. Instead, the Berlin decree, pretending to have the support of the Washington Government, and presuming—God save the mark!—to be issued in the interest of "freedom of the seas," would attempt an asphyxiation of the international trade of the whole world. It is not believable that the United States will ultimately assent to such a doctrine.

We are told that if we will only keep Americans off the ships of belligerent countries, they will be safe. Yes; if we will keep American persons and American merchandise off the ships of belligerents, we will be safe; but our rights in the world will be at an end. Our participation in the free use of the great highways will have been surrendered. Our assent will have been yielded to the restoration of the worst of maritime barbarisms. Will we assent to that?

A SIGN IN THE EAST

In this, the month of groundhog, men may well attend the signs and portents displayed in the heavens premonitory to events of the future. From out the mystic East have ever come the manifestations of phenomena marvelous and supernatural, omens of great affairs. Therefore may politicians give pause to the news that comes from ancient Saloniki, where the Sign of the Big Stick has been lifted in the mailed hand of military might.

We learn by way of the more or less veracious news dispatches that creep past the various censorships, that the soldiers in the trenches along the Saloniki fronts have been armed with big, heavy, knotted, spiked, or studded clubs, to use in making trench attacks. It has been found, in this new species of hand-to-hand warfare, that the bludgeon is better than the rifle or the revolver; it knocks out the brains of the victim surely, noiselessly, and with dispatch. The element of quiet is especially important; it is desirable to be able to grab off a section of enemy trenches by this modest and polite process of knocking out his brains without arousing the denizens of other sections.

Thus is the Symbol of the Big Stick raised warningly in the East. It was not far from the classic shores of Saloniki, if historic recollection serves, that Constantine recorded the vision in which he saw the cross and the motto "In hoc signo vinces." The region is rich in the reminders of classic oracles and mythologic lore. Perhaps its magic is not yet lost; perchance it is now brandishing over the heads of warring hosts a symbol which they shall not interpret, but which shall be simplicity itself to Occidental people knowing to that species of symbolism.

A MUSICAL OPPORTUNITY

Last evening Baltimore launched its Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. About \$6,000 was subscribed by Baltimore folk, the orchestra was made up of Baltimore musicians, and even the soloist, Miss Mabel Garrison, of the Metropolitan company, was a Baltimorean. Every indication points to the pronounced success of the venture.

There is no reason why Washington should not have a symphony orchestra of its own. No reason, that is, except the failure of the hundreds of music lovers and patrons here to contribute amply to the project. The orchestra this city had five years ago was a pronounced artistic success. The capability of its conductor, Heinrich Hammer, a Washington resident, was highly appraised. The musicians were of the first order. The orchestra went under from lack of funds, and from nothing else.

Washington each year contributes thousands to the support of the Boston, New York, and Philadelphia orchestras. It liberally patronizes every artist of merit that comes here. This interest in music is growing each year. It is not too soon for a group of the music lovers who would like to encourage home talent to get together and launch again a Washington Symphony Orchestra.

Washington musicians have complained of the willingness of residents here to support visitors and their lack of enthusiasm about native artistic efforts. That no longer is true in the field of painting and dramatic art, it should no longer be true in the field of music. Baltimore will have the thanks of the Capital if the example it has set inspires this city to emulate its latest effort.

All nature finds a level. The general opinion of a Congressman after his first speech on the floor is about offset by his opinion of himself.

It took that aviator only forty-eight hours to find that his bride was worth more than her weight in gold.

What with remnants and counter attacks, the war news begins to read like the account of a bargain-day rush.

The hot polloi will be able to wait fairly patiently until Colonel House discloses what it is that satisfies him.

Woman Hurt When Motor Car Collides With Buggy

Mrs. Alice P. Schull, of New Cut road and Forty-seventh street northwest, received slight injuries when an automobile operated by her husband, Frank Schull, collided with a buggy driven by John Ince, of Foundry branch and New Cut roads last yesterday. Both of the vehicles were damaged.

GERMAN TRENCHES WILL BE FEATURE OF CHARITY BAZAAR

"Busy Berthas" and Real Fatherland Warriors Will Be at War Sufferers' Benefit.

STARTS NEXT MONDAY NIGHT

Week of Pleasing Entertainment Provided by Managers for All at Odd Fellows Hall.

Trenches manned by German soldiers, and topped by an exact reproduction of the 42-centimeter gun that has become so famous, will feature the Charity Bazaar for the benefit of the orphans and widows of the warriors of the central European powers, at Odd Fellows Hall. Ambassador von Bernstorff will officially dedicate the bazaar on Monday night.

The German soldiers will be real even if the trenches are only reproductions, for the men who man these trenches will be members of the Deutsche Krieger Bund of the District of Columbia. They are real Americans, though a petulant American might object to their being in the uniforms of some of the most famous corps of the German army, the uniforms they wore during their military service in the Fatherland. Some of the men are veterans of the Franco-Prussian war, and some of them are much younger men, though none of them are veterans of the present struggle.

Work Begun On Trenches. Construction of the trenches started today on the big stage at the end of the main hall. The bazaar is to occupy every bit of the available space at Odd Fellows Hall and from the enthusiasm shown at the final meeting of the executive committee last night the affair promises to be one of the most important in the history of the German societies of the District. Fifteen of the societies are represented and each of them has been assigned an important part to play in the affair.

The bazaar will open at 8 o'clock Monday night with formal exercises. Details of the program have been arranged, but it is stated that there will be two speeches, and musical numbers by the members of the Washington societies.

The identity of the speakers is withheld, the members of the committee in charge state, until their introductions. It is not improbable, however, that Ambassador von Bernstorff will be one of them. The members of the staffs of the German, the Austrian, and the Turkish embassies in this city will also be present, and will have important parts in the exercises.

Two Unusual Booths. Two of the twenty or more booths are to be of unusual character. One of these, near the main entrance to the bazaar, will display articles of all sorts that have been made by the German military prisoners confined in the prisoners' camps in Russia. By a special arrangement a large consignment of these articles has been received in this country and has been distributed among the booths. The other booth, near the main entrance, will be a "Bazaar for the Widows and Orphans" and will be held by the German and Austrian embassies.

The German and Austrian embassies will be interested in giving the widest distribution to these articles, and while the nature of them is not disclosed, it is stated that they will include many useful things and many things that are highly ornamental.

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Open For Whole Week. The bazaar will be open for the entire week, starting after Monday at 4 o'clock each afternoon. Each night there will be a different program. The formal opening will supply the program for Monday night.

Tuesday there will be a drill by a company of twenty-four young girls under the leadership of Miss Pauline Holer. Wednesday a series of German, Austrian, Bulgarian, and Turkish folk dances will be given. Friday Miss Heller's drill team again will be in the line, and Saturday night will be the grand affair, when everything in the house will be sold.

William C. Gwynn Heads Committee Arranging Annual Banquet at Raleigh.

The committee on arrangements is issuing announcements for the annual banquet of the Washington branch of the Georgetown Alumni Association at the Raleigh Hotel on the evening of March 4. William C. Gwynn, chairman of the committee, has appointed a subcommittee which is planning a more extensive program than ever before in the matter of entertainment. Arrangements are being made for more than 100 graduates who are expected to be present.

One Year Ago Today in the War

The Lusitania sailed from Liverpool flying the British mercantile marine emblem in place of the naval reserve flag she usually displayed. Captain Dow said he might use the American flag on the passage.

Two hundred Americans canceled their passage on the Lusitania. American artillery shells were used for the first time on the French western front.

Austrian U-boats seized two Italian merchant vessels.

DEMANDS FEDERAL PROBE OF DAIRIES

BRITISH EMPIRE

CONGRESSMAN LINTHICUM ASKS INVESTIGATION TO PROMOTE HEALTH OF NATION.

Federal inspection of dairy products, following an investigation of the conditions of creameries throughout the country, is sought under a resolution introduced in the House by Congressman J. Charles Linthicum of Maryland. Mr. Linthicum issued a statement today explaining the need of an investigation and asserting that "a large percent of the dairies in this country are insanitary."

Mr. Linthicum bases his resolution on reports of the Bureau of Animal Industry that many dairies are furnishing impure products for public consumption. "The resolution declares that dairy products are not subject to Federal inspection, and calls for the appointment of a committee of five members of the House of Representatives to investigate and report upon the following:

"Who's conditions prevailing in dairies and dairy products seriously menace the health and property of the people of the United States; whether Federal inspection and supervision, either alone or in co-operation with State and municipal inspection and supervision, is necessary to the reasonable protection of the health and property of the people of the United States; if so, then the best and most economic methods of insuring and enforcing such inspection and supervision."

After introducing his resolution Congressman Linthicum today made the following statement:

"Such a large percentage of the dairies of this country are insanitary, and such a considerable percentage of the food products coming from them are so unsanitary, that they certainly should be inspected. Moreover, there is a direct connection between the unsanitary condition of the dairies and the prevalence of tuberculosis among cows, and the health or ill health of the people of the country."

NEW MEMBERS' NIGHT AT Y. W. C. A. HOME

133 January Recruits to Be Entertained With Special Program This Evening.

"New members' night" will be observed at the Y. W. C. A. building tonight, when the 133 members recruited during January will be entertained with a special program arranged by Mrs. Walter T. Weaver, chairman of the Georgetown chapter, and Miss Marian Barstow, membership secretary.

Songs and folk dances by five-year-old Catherine Birch, and recitations by ten-year-old Jewel Marks, will feature the program. In addition Mrs. Appleton Clark, Jr., will give several readings; Mrs. Otis D. Sweet will sing, and Mrs. Benjamin Woodruff will recite in negro dialect. The membership committee, of which Mrs. Woodbury Pulester is chairman, and Miss Marie Boynton, who lectured before the current events class, will receive.

Games and dances will be presented in the gymnasium, and refreshments will be served in the club room. The new members and their guests the different parts of the building.

All the members of Georgetown Chapter are among the new recruits, the branch having been organized a few weeks ago with fourteen members, under the leadership of Mrs. W. A. C. Merritt. The new members will be formally organized Tuesday. The reception is tonight's feature of "open house" week, the jubilee celebration of the chapter.

Sunshine Society Branch Gives Silver Tea Here

Mrs. Walter H. Howard, president of Crittenton branch of the Sunshine and Community Society, received at a silver tea given by the Crittenton branch at the Wyoming yesterday.

She was assisted by a committee including Mrs. Thomas Watt Gregory, Mrs. Carlton C. Williams, Mrs. W. H. Osborne, Mrs. James L. Pugh, Mrs. Kate Waller Barrett, Mrs. B. A. Cunningham, Mrs. Ella Loran, Mrs. Ella S. Knight, Mrs. George Baber, Mrs. J. Edson Briggs, and Mrs. Falconer.

Others assisting were Mrs. M. W. Winter, Mrs. James M. Raugh, Mrs. E. G. Russell, Mrs. C. G. Abbott, Mrs. Anton Hellmiller, Mrs. Helen Doocy, Mrs. Carrie E. Rogers, Mrs. Sanford Taylor, Mrs. A. Kahan, Mrs. Charles P. Grandfield, Mrs. E. S. Henry, Mrs. Zingham, the Misses Elizabeth and Marian Hellmiller, Miss Lella Howard, Miss Florence Briggs, Miss Sylvia Metcalf, and Miss Alice Griffith.

St. Valentine's At University Club

Congressmen J. Thomas Hefflin and J. Hampton Moore, Joseph W. Fith, counsel for the Interstate Commerce Commission, and the Rev. Dr. James Shera Montgomery will be the speakers at the St. Valentine's Day dinner at the University Club on Monday. The dinner will be given by George H. O'Connor, Charles T. Tittman and Earl Carbaugh will sing. Novel Valentine cards and souvenirs will be features of the dinner.

TO BE GIVEN DRILL AT POTOMAC FORTS

G. W. U. Coast Artillery to Be Assigned to Work on Big Fortifications.

WILL USE BIG CANNON

Guardsmen Invited to Attend Field Artillery School in Oklahoma.

Instruction at the Potomac fortifications for the coast artillery company of George Washington University is being planned at national guard headquarters.

The company, already recruited to almost full strength, will be given once each week twenty-four hours of duty at Fort Washington or Fort Hunt. Brig. Gen. William E. Harvey, commanding the national guard, is planning to send the company to one of the two forts each Saturday afternoon, to remain on duty until Sunday afternoon. The company will be given instruction in the handling of guns of all calibers used in the coast defenses from the 5 and 8 inch rapid-fire guns to the 12-inch disappearing monsters. There are several mortar batteries of 12-inch caliber available for instruction purposes.

The plan for the coast artillery instruction follows along lines considered for adoption by the Massachusetts guardsmen. Weekly armory drills will give way to a monthly field day or each company. The plan is a radical departure from the usual system of militia drill. Infantry companies of the District National Guard have heretofore come out for practice marches on Sunday, but the practice has been largely restricted to the individual initiative of the officers and men of the companies involved.

Invitations have been extended to both field batteries of the District National Guard to send officers to the School of Fire of the District Artillery School at Fort Sill, Okla. The School of Fire for mobile artillery has a comprehensive course for militiamen as well as for regulars. Owing to the fact that there are no funds available for pay, acceptance is purely voluntary matter on the part of the officers.

Similar invitations have been extended to officers of the machine gun company of the Third Infantry, to attend the new machine gun school at Flatlands Barracks, N. Y.

Speeches, Dance, and Dinner for Missourians

The sixth annual banquet of the Missouri Society at Raucher's tonight will be addressed by Senator Catron of New Mexico and Congressman Scott Ferris of Oklahoma. Howard Sherman of West Virginia, Robert Stott of Montana, all native Missourians, Third Assistant Postmaster General Dockery will preside. Dancing will follow the banquet.

Maine-New Hampshire Bodies to Hear Lecture

An illustrated lecture on "The Gardens of California" will be delivered by W. B. Peckham before a joint meeting of the Maine and New Hampshire associations of the District at Masonic Hall, Elkhart and E streets, Washington, tonight at 8 o'clock. Music will be furnished by the Maine New Hampshire trio. The associations will give a theater party at Polk's the following Monday.

WHAT'S ON PROGRAM IN CAPITAL TODAY

Meeting, Biological Society of Washington, Cosmos Club, 8 p. m.
Meeting, District Federation of Women's Clubs, Public Library, 12 to 3 p. m.
Banquet, Columbia Club, 7 to 10 p. m.
Moore, Moore House, 7th and G streets northwest.
Supper and dance, Missouri Society, Raucher's, 7:30 p. m.
Hoosier Social, Indiana Society, old Masonic Temple, 8 p. m.
Meeting, local alumni of Howard University, library hall, University campus, 7 p. m.
Dance, Cosmopolitan Pleasure Club, 421 Massachusetts avenue northeast.
Lecture, "The War of the Worlds," by H. G. Wells, 8 p. m., Metropolitan Hotel.
Celebration in honor of Washington and Lincoln, Methodist Episcopal Church, by Boy's Progressive Club and Troop 4, Girl Scouts of Potomac, 8 p. m.
Supper, Y. M. C. A. extension workers, assembly hall, Y. C. A. building.
Lecture, "The War of the Worlds," by H. G. Wells, 8 p. m., Metropolitan Hotel.
Old Fellows-Canton Washington, No. 1, Patriarchal Hall.
Loyal Order of Moose-Columbia Lodge, No. 128, banquet.
National Union-Columbia Council, Nonpareil Council.
Socialist Party-Social supper.
Leap year dance, Home Club, 8 p. m.
Address, "The Jewish Student in American Colleges and Universities," by Dr. S. H. Himmelfarb, before George Washington University Men's Society, Arts and Sciences Building, 8 p. m.
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RED CROSS MEMBERS NOW NUMBER 4,202

Ten days' campaign for Red Cross members has raised the enrollment in Washington to 4,202 to date. Many churches and clubs are yet to be heard from, and it is expected that by early next week the Washington branch will be able to raise its membership to 5,000.

Mrs. N. T. McLaughlin, chairman of the campaign committee, today announced one new life member, Mrs. W. N. Ritter, received this morning. St. John's Church already has sent in twenty-four members, and there are more to come from the campaign by members of that church. The Navy Department is the latest Government department to report, and it filed 123 names last evening.

Following the address of William Howard Taft yesterday at the exhibit rooms at Thirteenth and F streets, the exhibit was closed. It will be shown here at the National Guard tournament, and at the Safety-First exhibit, and then taken to other cities for use in similar membership campaigns.

National Officers to Meet Capital Red Men

National officers of the Improved Order of Red Men will attend the great council for the Washington reservation in the wigwam of Idaho Tribe, No. 15, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Officers of the Idaho Tribe will meet tomorrow at 2 o'clock to arrange for the meeting.